International Business Machines Corporation

P.O. Box 1328
Boca Raton, Florida 33432
305/994-2000

April 21, 1981

IBM CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. B. O'Rear
Microsoft
10800 N.E. Eight-Suite 819
Bellevue, WA 98004

Subject: DOS User Manual

Reference: Marked-Up Copy, Attached

Dear Bob:

Attached is a copy of the DOS manual with comments and corrections noted at the appropriate points. I felt this method would be easier than creating an itemized list. While most of the items found were of the "typo" category, the following items are important enough to warrant mention here:

1. All descriptions of CTRL and ESC sequences should be replaced by the proper keyboard key name (including the manual's index).

2. File names should not include the period and question mark as legal characters due to their special uses, but should include the ampersand and pound sign as legal characters. File names should begin with any legal character.

3. A description of the PAUSE command should be inserted, and referenced by the BATCH description. Also, a description of the DATE command should be included.

4. The COPY command description should contain a note indicating that a file may not be copied to itself (same name on same diskette), and should refer the user to chapter 5 for single-drive operation.

5. The CLEAR command description should be removed.

6. EDLIN - descriptions should be added for the Q command, single-drive operation (where a diskette change is required), and the commands and procedures for editing a larger-than-memory file.

7. The SYS command should be added, and should include a description of operating in a single-drive environment.

8. Page 4-9 (DEBUG PILL description) is incomplete.

9. DEBUG description refers to both the hyphen and the underline as the prompt - these references should be consistent.

10. Chapter 5 should be added, and should cover single-drive operation for COPYS, FORMAT, SYS, CHKDSK, and EDLIN.

Also, in order to proceed with our publication work, the following reference material will be required:

1. Descriptions of all fields of the:

   A. Directory entry
   B. File allocation table
   C. File control block
   D. Program segment

2. Descriptions of all 42 system function calls, including function name, functional description, inputs and outputs. While some of this information can be gotten from the original DOS Reference Manual, many of the functions were not described there, and several have changed.

3. Descriptions of the DOS interrupt vector table entries and how they can be used by the user.

In order to proceed in an orderly fashion, we request that you let us know (by April 27) when the required material can be made available to us.

Please do not hesitate to call if I can be of assistance.

D. Litton

D. Litton

DL:kmw:523/165-84

Attachment

cc: W. Moody 8N6/223-1 Boca Raton